

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 EUR-12 H-01 INR-07

IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05 SSO-00

NSCE-00 /089 W

-----180355Z 117457 /15

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FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2210

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ANKARA BY POUCH

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK BY POUCH

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0320

FROM US REP MBFR

USSALTTWO

GENEVA FOR SEABED DEL-SLOSS

BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJ: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JUNE 13-19

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1. AT THE JUNE 14 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA FORCE
REDUCTION NEGOTIATIONS, EASTERN REPS CHARGED THAT DECISIONS TAKEN
AT RECENT NATO MEETINGS SHOWED THAT THE WEST WAS INTENT
ON INCREASING ITS ARMAMENTS IN CENTRAL EUROPE, WHICH MADE
UNDERSTANDABLE WESTERN REFUSAL TO AGREE IN PRINCIPLE TO
ARMAMENT REDUCTIONS AND CAST DOUBT ON WESTERN SINCERITY IN

THE NEGOTIATIONS. MEANWHILE, THEY CLAIMED THAT EASTERN PARTICIPANTS HAD NOT TAKEN AND WERE NOT UNDERTAKING MEASURES TO INCREASE QUANTATIVELY THE STRENGTH OF WARSAW PACT FORCES IN THE AREA, BUT WERE MERELY ENGAGING IN A NORMAL PROGRAM TO REPLACE OUTMODED ARMAMENTS WITH MORE MODERN ONES. EASTERN REPS COMPARED THE REDUCTION APPROACHES OF EAST AND WEST AND CONTENDED THAT THE EASTERN APPROACH WAS CLEARLY THE MORE MILITARILY SIGNIFICANT OF THE TWO.

2. WESTERN REPS AT THE JUNE 14 INFORMAL SESSION EXPLAINED THE WESTERN POSITION ON COLLECTIVITY OF MANPOWER CEILINGS. THEY ALSO REFERRED TO THE WESTERN POSITION ON ASSOCIATED MEASURES AND NOTED THAT EASTERN REPS HAD SO FAR FAILED TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON INDICATIONS PREVIOUSLY GIVEN THAT THEY WOULD COMMENT ON THIS TOPIC. WESTERN REPS REVIEWED THE INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN EARLIER EASTERN ACTIONS POINTING TO EASTERN RECOGNITION OF THE EXISTENCE OF A SIZEABLE EASTERN SUPERIORITY IN MILITARY MANPOWER AND PRESENT EASTERN ASSERTIONS OF APPROXIMATE EQUALITY BETWEEN THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF NATO AND WARSAW PACT FORCES IN THE REDUCTION AREA. THE SESSION INCLUDED AN EXCHANGE OF ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS REGARDING THE DATA RESPECTIVELY TABLED BY EAST AND WEST.

3. BULGARIAN REP DICHEV MADE THE ONLY STATEMENT AT THE JUNE 16 PLENARY MEETING. HIS PRESENTATION MEASURED EASTERN AND WESTERN PROPOSALS AGAINST PRINCIPLES AGREED TO IN THE PREPARATORY TALKS. DICHEV MAINTAINED THAT THE EASTERN APPROACH TO REDUCTIONS CONFORMED TO THOSE PRINCIPLES WHEREAS THE WESTERN PROGRAM DID NOT. IN SO DOING, BULGARIAN REP CRITICIZED THE

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MILITARY VALUE OF US NUCLEAR REDUCTIONS PROPOSED BY THE WEST AND IMPLIED THAT THE WEST MIGHT SEEK CREDIT FOR WITHDRAWING WARHEADS ASSOCIATED WITH OBSOLETE SYSTEMS. DICHEV ALSO CRITICIZED WESTERN RELUCTANCE TO AGREE TO AN IMMEDIATE FREEZE ON MILITARY MANPOWER AND WESTERN INSISTENCE ON SPEAKING OF AN EASTERN PREPONDERANCE IN MILITARY PERSONNEL IN THE AREA DESPITE THE INTRODUCTION OF OFFICIAL EASTERN DATA SHOWING THIS WESTERN ASSERTION TO BE UNFOUNDED. RESOR

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